

**National Marine Fishery Services
Office of Science and Technology**

Request For FY05 Proposal (RFP)

For

Fishery Information System (FIS)

Proposal Due Date: July 30, 2004

Submit to:

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1. Introduction

The Fishery Information System (FIS) FY04 annual funding allocation was finally approved for disbursement. This provided us the opportunity to continue and expand projects started in FY03 and add new projects. Since the first national meeting in November 2003, many progresses have been made. In January 2004, Dr. Mike Sissenwine asked management to continue the support of the FIS project and assign the best expertise to assist the FIS development process. The FIS team has been working very hard to make this happen. Within the last year we've had a very successful national meeting, formed five Professional Specialty Groups (PSGs) and funded dozens of essential projects, all of which are underway and making progress. The FIS team is currently working on a detailed FIS scope and planning document and planning the second national meeting.

In the past, there was no formal national project proposal evaluation process, and there was never enough time for people to write the proposals and evaluate them. This year, we are going to start early. The Office of Science and Technology is initiating the Request For Proposals (RFP) for the FY05. We want to start this process now in order to give people enough time to think about and write proposals for next fiscal year. These proposals will be packaged and distributed prior to the August national meeting. All submitted proposals will be evaluated during the meeting. We need to maintain the energy and continue with the commitment we made to work together to further develop and pursue specific objectives in achieving FIS goals.

2. Background

In 1996, the Magnuson Stevens FCMA was reauthorized. In Section 401, there was a mandate issued to implement a plan for a nationwide Fisheries Information System (FIS) and the Fishing Vessel Registration System (VRS). In the Report to Congress, the FIS conceptual model was defined with the integration/harmonization of fisheries data collection and management (virtual system). In addition, regional implementation in cooperation with the States, the Councils and the Marine Fisheries Commissions was defined. Highly collaborative process with stakeholder involvement was also described and the data linkage using common vessel/participant identifiers were also proposed.

The FIS requirements were developed to fix the problems of imprecise data on assessed stocks and extremely limited data on many exploited stocks; burdensome collection and data management processes requiring duplicate reporting by stakeholders; and inadequate economic and social impact analyses resulting in court challenges with dramatic staff costs and burdens on the agency.

3. Requirements and Procedure

In the in November national meeting, the PSGs worked together defining objectives under the FIS goals. With FY04 initiatives, we have analyzed these objectives and supported the proposals which met the most critical and higher priority FIS objectives.

For the next fiscal year, FY05, we will continue many of the projects that cannot be completed in FY04, and initiate some new projects that will produce measurable progress towards satisfying the goals of the national FIS. We would like to propose the following process and procedures in collecting proposals. The proposal must support one or more of the following FIS initiatives:

- Continuing the support with the development of a national metadata system
- Development of cross regional applications/tools system to support similar fishery activities
- Any development effort that will reduce duplicated effort
- Application or activities that will support any inter-regional or national system development
- Enhancement of any existing systems or reusable developed components of existing system (i.e., No re-invent of the wheel)
- Any system development which uses new technology
- Data collection innovation
- Electronic submission of information
- Efficient information accessibility

4. Evaluation Process and Selection

After the RFP is sent out to the field, all proposals are to be submitted to the Office of Science and Technology (S&T) by July 30, 2004. The S&T will package submitted proposals and distribute them to participants prior to the August meeting. All proposals will be discussed and evaluated during the meeting. To work with this process more efficiently, a proposal evaluation committee will be established. This committee will include representatives from each regional area and one commission. Once the group is established, the group will meet immediately to establish and finalize detailed proposal evaluation criteria. During the meeting, the participants will represent the corresponding region or center offices for the proposal evaluation. This group will meet to evaluate and rank the proposals against the criteria and determine the proposals that will meet the above FIS needs. After the proposals are selected and approved, the funds will be disbursed to the requesting office(s) after the FY05's funding is approved. Cross-region proposals are encouraged if the proposal's initiatives are to build inter-regional system and benefit multiple regions.

5. Proposal Format

The following is a suggested format for the proposal(s). All the information listed below is required to be addressed. Each proposal must be typed and completed in its entirety in no more than 10 pages.

Region/Center: *Which Fishery Region or Center; Marine Fisheries Commission or FIN and State.*

Project Manager: *Project Manager's Name*

Project Manager's phone number: *Phone number*

Contact Person #: *Who to contact should a question(s) come up*

Contact Telephone #: *Phone number*

E-mail address: *Contact's email address*

Date: *Date of the proposal*

Project Name: *Name of proposed project*

Project Objective: *Describe the project objective(s) that will meet FIS objectives and support the FIS goals*

Brief background and project description: *Describe the project background and detailed description*

Type of project: *data management, data access, data collection innovation, etc.*

Project priority (high), (med), (low):

Cross-Region project (Y/N):

If yes, please describe: *Describe how this project will support inter-regional initiatives and which regions will be involved*

System resources: *Hardware, software, and network/internet, etc.*

Technology used: *(Java, portal, JSP, etc.)*

Data Source: *Where is the data coming from?*

High-level project plans: *Project estimation, which includes major project deliverables, milestones, and timelines*

Risks involved: *State any potential risks involved and suggested solutions*

Successful criteria: *Provide any measurable criteria and successful factor(s) to indicate the project's success*

Proposed assistance from FIS (Funds/assistance from other sources): *(funds, labor, hardware, software, etc.) – include in kind resources.*

Project duration: *Single year/ multi-year*

How does this project tie into the national effort towards upgrading an existing or initiating a new system towards integrating fishery-dependent data?

- (1) Permits (full legal name and birth dates of all vessel, corporation, and or permit owners; employee identification numbers (for corporations); and hull identification numbers for state registered vessels (2) Reconciling logbook and landings (3) System Design Integration (4) Electronic reporting (5) Social Economic Analysis

6. Proposal Submission and Fund Distribution

All proposals must be submitted to the Office of Science and Technology no later than July. 30, 2004. The proposals should be submitted via email to tina.chang@noaa.gov and CCs to steve.koplin@noaa.gov and dave.van.voorhees@noaa.gov. Each proposal must address all items suggested in the proposal format and no longer than 10 typed pages. Should any question arise regarding the proposal, additional clarification of the proposal may be requested.

Should you have any questions regarding this RFP, please contact me at tina.chang@noaa.gov, or Steven Koplin at steve.koplin@noaa.gov or call (301)713-2328.